convicts were killed on the spot, and one was so severely wounded that he died in hospital the next day. Five convicts were more or less severely wounded with arrows. The savages carried off a considerable number of the convicts' working tools, clothes, and cooking vessels. The convicts were quite unable to cope with their opponents, and were obliged to save themselves by taking to the sea. The Naval Guard arrived too late to be of any use. Dr. Walker did not like to trust a small body of Europeans among so many convicts, and hoped by having a large file of convicts that they would, by their numbers, be able to resist the savages.

On the 14th April, at about noon, when the convicts of the two divisions were employed in cooking, they were suddenly attacked by a very large number of aborigines, estimated at about 1,500, armed with small axes and knives, in addition to bows and arrows. The convicts attempted to resist, but were quite unequal to the work, and after having three killed on the spot, and six severely wounded, they were obliged to retire into the sea under the protecting fire of the Naval Guard boat moored off the landing place, while the savages remained in possession of the encampment, and carried off the working tools, clothing, and cooking vessels of the two divisions. Out of the 446 convicts present, 12 had fetters on, and these the savages selected, and having removed their fetters, carried them off into the jungle, and they have not been seen since.

The convicts described the savages as showing no disposition to attack any one with a mark of imprisonment (such as the iron ring round the ankle), unless opposed, but as anxious to attack and murder the section gangsmen, the sub-division gangsmen, and the division gangsmen, who do not wear the ring, and are marked by wearing a red turban, badge, and coloured belt. They called upon the convicts to stand aside and let them go into the water and attack the Naval Guard in the boat. During the two hours they had possession of the encampment they beckoned to the convicts to come and dance with them, and they, from fear, complied. Ludicrous groups of savages with a convict on each side, with arms entwined, were engaged in stamping motions which appeared intended for dancing.

Dr. Walker proceeded with Lieutenant Hellard to the spot, and finding that the convicts demanded either to be protected, or to be afforded the means of protecting themselves, had Division No. 1 sent to Aberdeen, and Division No. 4 to Viper Island.

(With regard to the above, the Andamanese have told me that what they objected to was that the convicts destroyed their jungle by clearing, etc ; they saw that the labouring convicts did not want to work, and that the gangsmen made them, so they attacked all the people who were in authority. Eventually the gangsmen begged to have their distinguishing marks taken off, and to be allowed to have an axe or other tool in their hands, in order that the Andamanese might not single them out.)

During the first half of April, the Andamanese showed themselves at Aberdeen in small numbers (from 8 to 20) four times. On the convicts turning out to attack them, they disappeared.

On the 28th April, a party from Her Majesty's ship *Charlotte* (schooner) landed at North Point, and without provocation were attacked by the aborigines, and one of the European seamen received a wound from an iron-headed arrow, the point of which snapped off in the wound. Dr. Walker then forbade any one to land on the mainland on pleasure excursions.

On the 14th May, 1859, the aborigines attacked Aberdeen and Atalanta Point. Owing to timely warning from two escaped convicts who had been travelling with the aborigines, the attack was provided for and the plunder of the tools on a large scale prevented. The Naval Guard was landed at Aberdeen ; the *Charlotte* anchored between Ross and Atalanta Point ; Lieutenant Warden, I.N., landed a party of naval men, and marching to the top of Aberdeen hill put the convicts in his rear for protection; while the *Charlotte's* men stopped the aborigines who were coming along the shore. Lieutenant Warden was attacked from the jungle, and, owing to the numbers of the savages, retreated into the boats, from whence he protected the convicts who had gathered on the pier, and in the water, by firing over their heads. The *Charlotte's* guns too opened fire on the savages, who held possession of the convict station for over half an hour, plundering everything

worth carrying off. Lieutenant Hellard I.N., with a party of Naval Brigade men, Dr. Walker's crew, and a number of convicts, rushed up the hill and drove off the aborigines. None of the convicts were wounded, but several of the savages are supposed to have been.

A few days afterwards another attack was threatened, but though the Andamanese entered the place where the convicts were clearing the jungle, they did not follow them when they retreated to the station.

The above-mentioned fight, which was afterwards known in the Settlement as "The Battle of Aberdeen," was the most serious collision with the Andamanese which occurred at all. Had not Dr. Walker received notice regarding it from Life Convict Dudhnáth Tewári, No. 276, who had escaped almost immediately after his arrival, on the 23rd April, 1858, and had lived with the Andamanese ever since, had learnt their language, and had become cognizant of the arrangements for the fight which had been arranged in detail for some time previously, very serious damage might have been caused.

Dudhnáth has often been abused since for his exaggerated and untruthful statements regarding the Andamanese, but he certainly did good service to the Government at this time, and fully earned the pardon which was subsequently granted to him on this account by the Government of India. He made some lengthened statement to Dr. Walker, which was forwarded to the Government of India, but of which I have been unable to obtain a copy. In *Chambers' Journal* for March, 1860, a selection from this statement is published with comments, and an abridgment of the article in the *Journal* is herewith given. Judging from it, I should say that Dudhnáth was not nearly such a liar as he is supposed to have been. His is the first at all accurate idea which we obtained of the Andamanese and their customs in the present century.

Dudhnáth Tewári, a Sepoy of the 14th Regiment of Native Infantry, having been convicted of mutiny and desertion, was sentenced by the Commission at Jhelum to transportation for life and labour in irons. He was received at the Penal Settlement at Port

Blair, per ship *Roman Emperor* from Kurrachee, on the 6th April 1858, and was given the number 276. He escaped from Ross Island, Port Blair, on the 23rd April, 1858, and after a residence of one year and twenty-four days in the Andaman jungle with the aborigines, voluntarily returned to the convict station at Aberdeen, on the south side of Port Blair, on the 17th May, 1859.

He escaped, with ninety other convicts, upon rafts made from felled trees bound together with tent ropes, Aga, a convict gangsman of limited geographical knowledge, having assured them that the opposite shore was within ten days march of the capital of Burmah, under the Rajah of which place it was his intention to take service.

On reaching the mainland of the Andamans, and penetrating the jungle a little, they were joined, two days after their escape, by a further large body of convicts who had escaped at the same time they had from Phœnix Bay and Chatham Island. Aga appears to have been in command of the entire body of runaways who numbered 130.

For fourteen days this party progressed with exceeding slowness through the jungle, not knowing even in what direction they moved, and sometimes their wanderings led them back to a place which they had passed days before. All the food and necessaries secretly prepared for this expedition had been lost at the beginning, during the crossing by the men of the channel between Ross Island and the mainland. For eight days they had almost nothing to eat, afterwards those who could climb the tall branchless trees got a little of some pleasant fruit like the Indian *ber*. Water was very scarce, and only found in the form of small springs oozing through the sides of the hills. A few men had saved their axes, and with these the stems of a huge creeping cane were cut and so some water obtained. Twelve of the party through hunger and thirst were left during this period to die.

For the first thirteen days they never came upon any of the aborigines, although they found their deserted huts, but on the fourteenth day, at noon, about four miles in the interior, they were surrounded by about 100 savages armed with bows and arrows. The

convicts offered no resistance and only supplicated for mercy by signs and attitudes which were disregarded. An indiscriminate slaughter of them by the savages took place, and there were a great number of killed and wounded when Dudhnáth Tewári took to flight in the dense jungle, with three bad arrow wounds, on the eyebrow, the right shoulder, and the left elbow.

Shoo Dull, another (Brahmin) convict, who was wounded in the back, fled with him, and together they got along a salt water tidal creek to the sea shore, where, an hour afterwards, they were joined by a convict of the Kurmi caste.

They passed the night in that spot, and in the morning were seen by a party of aborigines (a tribe of some sixty men, women, and children), who were embarking in five canoes. They fled into the jungle and were pursued by the savages, who, firing, killed Tewári's two companions and wounded him. He feigned death, and was pulled out of his hiding place by the leg; but on making supplication to them by joining his hands, they withdrew a short distance and fired at him wounding him in the left wrist, and in the hip. He again pretended to be dead, and on their taking the arrow from his hip, again besought them to spare him, which, this time, they did. They helped him into a boat, and put red earth moistened with water round his neck and nostrils, and a lighter coloured earth over his body and wounds, and took him to a neighbouring Island. (This Island is named Termugli, and is one of the Labyrinth Islands south of the outer harbour of Port Mouat, being identified by Tewári, who had hitherto thought that it was part of the mainland of Burmah. The tribe who captured him was the Termugu-da Sept of the Áka-*Béa*-da Tribe, and was an Ár-*yauto* Sept—*M. V. P.*)

During the entire year he was away Tewári was always wandering about with this tribe from island to island, or on the mainland, never staying long in any one place. While he was with them, he wore no clothes whatever, shaved his head, and in all respects conformed to their customs, enjoying throughout the best of health, but for his wounds.

Most of these healed in about a month, except the elbow wound

which remained sore for three months. The aborigines never exacted service from him, but for a long time looked upon him with great suspicion, and to the last never permitted him, even in sport, to take up a bow and arrow; they always told him to sit down and be quiet if he attempted it. When he had been away for some four months Pooteah, one of the elder natives, made over to him as wives his daughter Leepa (aged twenty), and a young woman of sixteen called Jigah, the daughter of Heera. Before young ladies marry, they are considered to be common property among both married and single Andamen, but when they have husbands they henceforth behave themselves with the greatest propriety; even widows are never known to smile upon the male sex again. (!)

Tewari supposes that he saw about one quarter of the Great Andaman Island during his wanderings, and certainly as many as 15,000 natives in all. They generally live in the jungle bordering upon the sea coast, for convenience of procuring fish, shell-fish, and fresh water, though some inhabit the banks of salt water creeks in the interior.

All penetrate the jungle for pigs and fruits, but usually return to the coast at sunset. The whole population is migratory, moving in troops of from thirty to three hundred individuals, but all are one tribe and use the same language and customs. The deaths were not so numerous as the births, from which circumstance it may be supposed that the population is increasing. The aborigines are not cannibals, nor do they eat uncooked animal food, but they have no idea of a Supreme Being, and go about entirely naked, their coats being only of paint. The trousseau of the Andaman brides is very inexpensive, and the marriage ceremony the reverse of ceremonious. No preliminary arrangements of any kind are made. If any one of the seniors think that a young man and a young woman should be united, he sends for them and marries them himself; the consent of either party is never asked, nor does the wedding company—except when there are two wives—ever extend beyond these three.

Dudhnáth Tewári beheld five marriages and they were all alike.

Towards evening the bride, having painted her body in stripes

with her fingers smeared with red earth moistened with turtle oil, sits on leaves spread on the ground by way of carpet or bed, while the bridegroom similarly painted squats on *his* carpet of leaves a few paces off. They thus sit silent for an hour, when the person who united them comes from his hut, takes the bridegroom by the hand and leads him to the bride's carpet, and having seated him on it, without speaking, presents him with five or six iron headed arrows, and then returns to his hut leaving the newly married couple alone, who remain sitting on the carpet for several hours longer, in perfect silence, until it be quite dark, when they retire to their private residence.

In Tewári's case there was not even the ceremony of the arrows, but, without a word being said upon the subject, he was seated by Pooteah, one fine evening, between Leepa and Heera, to whom the chief pointed with his hand, and addressing the young man observed "Jirie Jog"! and left the spot immediately. They were not even painted (complains Tewári), nor was the least fuss made about them.

Tewári gives the following outline of the daily life of the Andamanese.

The women remain in the encampment cooking and making fishing nets, while the men hunt pigs in the jungle; the former have often to go several miles for fresh water, which they carry in large bamboos two at a time from six to nine feet long, and weighing about 80 to 100 lbs.; all the interior partitions of the bamboo, save the last, having been destroyed by the introduction of a smaller stick. They also catch shell-fish, and the fish that the receding tide leaves in the pools, with their hand nets. The aborigines do not allow a particle of hair to remain on them, and the females, acting as barbers, shave them cleanly and quickly with a small chip of bottle glass (the spoil probably from some shipwreck, or lucky raid upon the Settlement) of the size of a bean, but as thin as the blade of a penknife; the piece of glass is struck sharply on the edge with a hard stone to chip it thus finely.

Red earth mixed with turtle oil seems to be the Andamanese panacea for all diseases. The whole body of both sexes is tattooed,

except the head, neck, hands, feet, and the lower part of the abdomen, by being incised with small pieces of bottle glass; the operation is performed by the women, on children of eight or ten, during January, February, March, or April. These months are selected because they form the wild fruit season, wherein there is no necessity for the children to go into the salt water after fish, which would render the tattoo wounds painful. The operation is done by degrees and takes two or three years to complete. White earth (like lime) is smeared over the wounds, which heal in three to four weeks. No colouring matter being inserted, the effect is to make them of a paler hue than the surrounding skin.

The women rub the men with earth and water in the evening to keep off the mosquitos, but do not pay so much attention to their comforts generally, says Tewári, as Bengali wives. They carry their children in slings made from the inner bark of trees, and behind their backs. They cut green leaves for bedding, and palm leaves for thatching the huts, with the sharp shell called Uta, with which also they sharpen their arrows. They occupy old huts, if they can; nor need we wonder, since four days is a long residence for these gentry in any spot, and hut building is hard work for the ladies.

Dudhnáth Tewári, judging by his own height, which is five feet nine and a half inches, conjectures the native males to be about five feet five inches, and the females five feet two inches, in height; nor did he ever meet with any so tall as himself. The men and women are so alike in feature that from the face alone their sex cannot be determined; but they are both what would be considered in Hindustan (says Tewári) exceedingly ugly. So healthy and strong are the females, that the day after child-birth they are able to accompany the troop on foot as usual. The new-born babe is drenched in cold fresh water, and its wet body dried by the hand heated over a fire, quickly and gently. Any woman who is suckling takes the new born child for a day or two and feeds it. The child remains without any covering whatever like the parents, unless it rains, when a few leaves are sewn, with rattan for thread, and placed around it.

The reason of Tewári's leaving Andaman society was that he

might give information of an intended attack by the savages upon the convict station at Aberdeen. He did so—travelling with the attacking party along the sea coast—and set Dr. Walker on his guard, but just in time.

His wife Leepa was left in an interesting condition.

Remarks.—There is much in the above statement which is correct, and it appears to me to be the account of his adventures by an ignorant man, who related correctly what he remembered, exaggerated greatly when asked regarding matters to which he had paid no particular attention, and only invented when feeling obliged by continual questioning to give some answer about matters of which he knew nothing.

As regards his marriage,—

He was certainly married to Lipāia, but Jidga was a girl about twelve, who was not considered to be his wife. The Andamanese have been asked regarding his statement, and they corroborate much of what he says. Pooteah told him that the young woman Lipāia was a "Jádi Jóg" or "Spinster," and gave him a broad hint at the same time that he was welcome to her as a wife, but no attempt was made to marry the couple after the Andamanese fashion, the whole of which is wrongly related. The Andamanese never have two wives at the same time, and Dudhnáth wrongly describes a part of the ceremony, mistaking the part for the whole.

He only wandered over a portion of the South Andaman, meeting with different Septs of the same Tribe, and his remarks as to their numbers, as well as to their height, are great exaggerations. He was acquainted with the existence of Éremtága tribes, and speaks correctly of them, though evidently having little knowledge of their ways, yet in this matter he was in advance of his time, as the existence of these tribes was not generally recognised till about 1879.

The reasons he gives for the different actions of the Andamanese are often incorrect, but his observations on their habits are fairly accurate.

On the whole, I see no just ground for the unsparing abuse which

has been heaped on this man by other writers; many of his statements are inaccurate in details, but the statements of those who vilify him are the same.

The attacks by the Andamanese, particularly when of such magnitude as "the Battle of Aberdeen," and showing such implacable hostility and power of organisation against the Settlement on a large scale, became a serious feature in the administration, and had to be reckoned for in all arrangements made.

On the evening of the 27th June, 1859, convict Boorhana, No. 2622, who escaped with three others on the 23rd of March, returned and stated that one of his companions was killed by the aborigines, and the two others were then living with the savages on Rutland Island and refused to return. This convict further stated that his reason for returning was to give notice that the aborigines on Rutland Island intended to attack Ross Island, and had collected 1,000 armed men, and constructed 500 canoes. Dr. Walker questioned the man's veracity, but the convict added that 500 canoes are now ready, in addition to about 100 used for fishing, and their construction is proceeding at the rate of 12 to 16 per diem. He said that the attack might be expected within a few days.

As it would be dangerous to send a sailing vessel on the Western coast during the south-west monsoon, Dr. Walker was unable to test the truth of the man's statement. All precautions were taken, and preparations to resist the attack made. Dr. Walker noted that, if the Settlement is liable to attacks by water, it would be necessary to supply him with a small steamer.

It is easy for us now to see that the above report was false. Dudhnáth had a short time before been locally pardoned for escaping, and further recommended for absolute release, because he came in, and by a timely and true warning saved the Settlement from an unexpected and dangerous attack; and this man, who had probably been lurking in the vicinity of the Settlement and picking up news from his friends, hoped to do the same. It would naturally alarm Dr. Walker, who could not be expected to know how false the statement was.

The following statement by the same convict is probably equally false. He said that, about six weeks before, a Turkish ship's boat, painted red outside and green inside, and having a crescent painted on one bow, with 21 Hindustani and two Cabuli shipwrecked pilgrims on board, was picked up, while drifting out at sea off the west coast of Rutland Island, by the aborigines on the west coast, in the south-west monsoon. The savages treated the men kindly in their distressed condition, and continued to do so up to the time the convict left.

The convict stated that the pilgrims had left "Abooshuhm" in a Turkish vessel bound for some port *en route* to Mecca, and after sailing for about two months, the vessel was caught in a severe storm which lasted two days, during which she struck upon a rock and capsized.

It is supposed that out of some hundreds, mostly pilgrims, on board, all perished except the 23 who were with the Andamanese on Rutland Island. These were only saved by catching hold of the vessel's boat which had got adrift. After a voyage of 18 days without food, but with plenty of rain water to drink, they drifted to the west coast of Rutland Island. For the first four days they pulled eight oars, without knowing where they were going, they then sighted high land, but their strength failing they drifted. The convict only remembered three of the pilgrims' names.

1. Meeah Allah Yar, Moulvi of Delhi. A very corpulent person, 30 years of age, with the cicatrix of a wound an inch in length on the right side of the brow, caused when a boy, by a fall down the steps of the Jumma Musjid at Delhi. The Moulvi has with him a small box containing the Koran, 500 rupees in silver, and some writing materials.

2. Futtah, a Mujawar of the Jumma Musjid of Delhi.

3. Munna, only known as a Fakir.

Dr. Walker could render these people no assistance even if the tale were true. He offered two convicts free pardons if they could succeed, by giving presents to the aborigines, in bringing these people into the Settlement. The convicts would not undertake the mission,

as from their knowledge of the savages they considered it hopeless for the pilgrims, and certain death for themselves.

Dr. Walker's only hope was that, should any aborigines be taken prisoners in any attack he might have to repel, he would try to procure the pilgrims by effecting an exchange.

The above story seems plausible, but I doubt whether at that time convicts could safely go to and from Rutland Island, as, in addition to the difficulty of crossing McPherson's Straits during the South-West Monsoon, there were three Tribes of Andamanese to be reckoned with, each speaking a different language, and being hostile to each other. The Andamanese whom I have consulted have no recollection of such a wreck having occurred, and say that, had any pilgrims landed, they would have been at once massacred.

The story of the 500 canoes is utterly ridiculous.

On the 26th March, 1859, Dr. Walker, having been promoted to the rank of Surgeon in the Army, resigned his appointment as Superintendent of Port Blair, stating his health was so broken with the worry of the Settlement work and the effects of the malarious climate, that he urgently required a change.

On the 29th July, 1859, Captain J. C. Haughton, of the 54th Native Infantry, was appointed by the Government of India to succeed Dr. Walker.

Captain Haughton was then attached to the Moulmein Commission, and was the Magistrate who had investigated the case of the murder of some of the Chinese crew of the junk *Fuen Gren* by the Andamanese, as related in Chapter VI, in February, 1856.

He was unable to join the appointment at once, as will be shown, but took over charge from Dr. Walker on the 3rd October, 1859.

Dr. Walker, when leaving, must have had much satisfaction in knowing that he had given so energetic a start to the Penal Settlement.

Had he been able to devote more time personally to the aborigines, he might have possibly commenced a friendly intercourse with them, but harassed as he was with work, and having little assistance,

this could not be expected. The hostility of, and fights with, the Andamanese were only what might have been anticipated, and these, at such an energetic opening of the Settlement, no one could have averted.

The Andamanese were naturally alarmed and enraged at the manner in which their country was being cleared and appropriated on all sides, and the conflicts with the convicts, and with the Naval Guard, in which the latter were the aggressors, only increased that alarm.

It must also be remembered in contrasting this with the opening of Blair's Settlement in 1789, that Lieutenant Blair had principally to deal with the more peaceable and timid Jàrawa Tribe, who since then appear to have become fewer in number and feebler, being probably gradually ousted from the harbour by the fierce and numerous Septs of the Áka-*Béa*-da.

Dr. Walker had the latter to deal with, and even Lieutenant Blair was unable to make anything of them, for his friendly relations were only with the people on the south side of the harbour (shown by Colebrooke's paper to have been Jàrawas), and he suffered from attacks by the Áka-*Béa*-da who lived on the north side.

Lieutenant Blair's clearings also were nothing like so extensive as Dr. Walker's.

CHAPTER IX.

Captain Haughton visits Penang and Atcheen to look for Andamanese—Andamanese in Siam—Captain Haughton's reforming and enlightened policy—Andamanese behave better—Cyclone—Naval Guard attacked by Andamanese—Captain Haughton's Report on the Andamanese—Dr. Gamack and Lieutenant Hellard began to make friends with the Andamanese—Dudhnáth Tewári released—Andamanese at South Point—Andamanese landed on Viper Island, and were friendly—Change in their attitude—Petty attacks—Further visits of the Andamanese to Viper Island—Fight on Viper Island with the Andamanese—Some Andamanese taken prisoners on Viper Island—Further attacks—Captain Haughton decided to send some of the Andamanese prisoners to Burmah for a time, and the Government of India approved—Colonel Fytche's remarks on the Andamanese sent to Burmah—Malay Prows seen near the Archipelago Islands—Remaining Andamanese prisoners released—Account of them—Further attacks by the Andamanese—The Andamanese returned from Moulmein—Extracts from the *Journal* of the Asiatic Society regarding the Andamanese—Vocabulary—Colonel A. Fytche's notes on the Andamanese—Major Tickell's notes on the Andamanese under his charge at Moulmein, and Vocabulary—Captain Haughton examines the Islands, and discovers "Kwang Tung" Harbour—Edible birds' nest collectors' reports—Major Haughton proceeds on leave, and Lieutenant-Colonel R. C. Tytler becomes Officiating Superintendent of Port Blair—Notes on the vocabularies collected by Major Haughton.

BOTH the Government of India and Captain Haughton seem at this time to have been so much impressed by the importance of the establishment of friendly relations with the Andamanese that, on the latter receiving his appointment to the Superintendentship of Port Blair, he was directed by the Government of India to visit the Straits Settlements and Atcheen, before proceeding to his post, in order to ascertain whether any Andamanese were resident there as slaves, etc.; and whether, if any such people were to be found, the services of one or more of them could be engaged as interpreters.

He arrived at Penang in the *Pluto* on the 23rd September, 1859, and at once put himself in communication with Mr. Lewis, the Resident Councillor, who gave him every assistance.

He learnt that on two occasions, eighteen or twenty years before, natives of the Andamans had been brought to Penang; in one case the Andamanese was a slave captured by the Malays, and in the

other, some people were picked up at sea drifting helplessly in a canoe.

Of all of these but one person, a female who had been picked up at sea, survived. Captain Haughton saw her and states that she was then a servant in the family of Mr. Mitchell, Chief Clerk of the Police.

She had been carefully brought up at an English School and spoke English perfectly, but had lost all knowledge of her own language. When asked if she would like to revisit her country, she at once expressed her wish to do so, if she could get "a good place" there. She was however too valuable a servant to her employers to be lightly parted with. Of course, for the purpose wanted she would have been useless, and she was therefore not taken.

(This is the female referred to by Mr. Rodyk, and mentioned in Chapter V.)

Captain Haughton states that he mentions the above details "as "they tend to show that the inhabitants of the Andaman Islands are "not so low in the scale of humanity as to be incapable of a consider-"able amount of civilisation."

He also mentions a rumour he heard from Mr. Lewis, that two natives of the Andaman Islands had been recently picked up at sea by the *Emma* and had been forwarded to Calcutta in the *Chinsurah*. On a further enquiry being made into this matter, it was found that the two men, who were subsequently returned to their own country, were Nicobarese, thus showing how the two peoples were confounded even so lately as 1859.

Nothing more regarding the Andamanese could be learnt at Penang, so Captain Haughton left for Atcheen on the 26th September, arriving there on the 28th.

Here, although provided with a letter to the Sultan from the Viceroy of India, he was received with much discourtesy, and was not admitted to an interview with him; he however learnt privately that there were no Andamanese at Atcheen, so left that place on the evening of the 29th, and arrived at Port Blair on the morning of the 3rd October.

The reason given by Captain Haughton for the discourtesy he received from the Sultan of Atcheen was, that that Ruler believed that the English had suffered severe loss, if not complete defeat, in India during the Mutiny, and also that they were at war with the Continental Powers in Europe. He adds that Atcheen was the resort of all the pilgrim vessels to and from Mecca and the various Malay Islands and Principalities, and this agrees with the remarks by Hamilton in "Pinkerton's Voyages" quoted in Chapter III.

The Malay pilot who accompanied Captain Haughton from Penang to Atcheen informed him that he had, on two different occasions, accompanied expeditions from Penang to the Andaman Islands for the express purpose of obtaining Andamanese for sale at Junk Ceylon to the Raja there, who required them as a rarity, for presentation to the Court of Siam. Captain Haughton remarks on this :—

"It is probable that some persons who were carried off are to be found in Bangkok. I do not however anticipate that, even if their services could be obtained, they would be of much use, as it appears probable that Siamese would be the only foreign dialect known to them. I shall however make enquiry on the subject through the medium of Sir R. Schomberg" (who was then our Minister at the Court of Siam).

The result of this enquiry was that Captain Haughton was informed that the statements of the Malay pilot were correct, and that there were several Andamanese at Bangkok. Nothing further seems to have been done in the matter.

All this throws a light on the state of the Andamanese and gives an excellent reason for their hostility to all comers. Naturally a pleasant, good-humoured, and gentle race, they were driven to desperation by the ill-treatment they received from strangers, and acquired in self-defence a cruelty and ferocity originally foreign to their natures.

On taking over charge of the Penal Settlement Captain Haughton found that the escapes of the convicts were still very numerous, though during his term of office, owing to his milder method of

treatment and his general kindness, they gradually became fewer. He appears to have been an officer singularly well adapted naturally for the work he had to do, was idolised by the convicts under him, and is even now (1895) spoken of with affection by the few still remaining, who were with him, or who arrived shortly after he left, and who looked up to "John Haughton's" days as an Age of Gold. His policy towards the convicts was reforming rather than repressive, and with him grew up the system which has made the Penal Settlement of Port Blair what it is now considered; *i.e.*, the first Reforming Penal Settlement in the world, and perhaps the only one from which, as a rule, the convicts on their release return to India better citizens than when they left it. Captain Haughton was allowed a Deputy Superintendent (Mr. Walter, from the Tenasserim Provinces), who could occasionally relieve him of his duties in Port Blair and enable him to cruise about among the Islands and make the acquaintance of the Andamanese in their undisturbed haunts. He appears to have known more of the Islands than any Superintendent until Colonel Cadell came in 1879, and some of our "discoveries" (!) of later years I find to be only "re-discoveries" of what Captain Haughton had already found out.

Both he and Mr. Walter, being from the Tenasserim Provinces, where the climate and the nature of the jungle is much the same as that in the Andamans, were able to form a juster estimate of the way in which the Islands should be opened out, than Dr. Walker, with only Upper Indian experience, could. Captain Haughton stopped the large and indiscriminate clearing of jungle for health's sake, which was being so energetically pushed on by Dr. Walker, for, as he pointed out, the land cleared, if unattended to (and such attention would involve the employment of a large number of men, and be a mere waste of labour), would lapse in a few years into a dense mass of secondary jungle: he therefore only cleared such land as was required for building, etc., or could be at once placed under cultivation, and thus did not give such offence to the Andamanese by spoiling their hunting grounds.

He looked upon the establishment of friendly relations with the

aborigines as one of the most important of his duties, and by great tact and kindness was able to do much in this direction.

Towards the end of 1859 the Andamanese began to refrain from indiscriminately massacring all the runaway convicts they met with, and contented themselves with looting them of all the metal they had, only wounding them if they resisted or ran away.

On the 13th November, 1859, of some escaped convicts who had returned, several had been wounded by the Andamanese, who in every case took away their brass pots and the iron rings off their legs. One convict was very severely bitten in the hand in his struggle to keep his brass pot, and this man afterwards committed suicide, by hanging himself, as he was afraid of losing his hand by mortification!

Cases occurred of runaways actually being kept for a short time by the Andamanese, and being well fed by them on pork. The Andamanese may have had some idea of getting the convicts to make common cause with them against the Government.

On the 1st December, 1859, the Settlement was visited by a cyclone which rose suddenly with a north wind at noon and blew with intense fury till 8 P.M. It then ceased altogether for a short time (while the centre was passing over the Settlement), and recommenced with a wind of equal fury from the south-west. The force of the storm moderated about midnight, and before the following morning entirely ceased. Captain Haughton described the scene of destruction which presented itself as being most melancholy and disheartening:—

"The plantain trees, about 12,000 in number, were everywhere laid low; giant trees, between one and two hundred feet in height, were thrown down or snapped in half; the Naval Barracks, the Superintendent's bungalow, and the hospital on Chatham Island were unroofed; the convict buildings on Viper Island, with the exception of one new barrack, were prostrated; and the convicts' huts in every station were either thrown down or greatly injured.

"The *Nemesis* at an early period of the storm, finding that she was dragging her anchors, steamed up into the Inner Harbour.

The gun-boat attempted to follow her, and, I grieve to say, was thrown on the rocks. I believe that the extreme suddenness with which the gale arose rendered this accident unavoidable." (She was eventually floated off and repaired.)

One European of the Naval Brigade was very severely injured and one convict was killed by the falling of a tree.

The *Nemesis* was sent along the coast to look for wrecks, but none were found.

The following remark of Captain Haughton's is of interest, as showing how little the natural products of the islands and the sea were utilised at that time:—

"Burmese, Malays, and Chinese are the only people who could exist here as free settlers. They will live and thrive where the natives of India would starve. In illustration of this, I may mention that the Burmese and Chinese convicts last received had only been a day or two here when, on visiting their quarters, I learned they had found a turtle's nest and obtained 150 eggs. I also found here a heap of shells of clams, cockles, etc., plainly indicating some hearty meals, and in a day or two afterwards they captured a very large turtle—all events unheard of before their arrival here."

During December, 1859, Captain Haughton visited Rutland Island with a view to render assistance to the shipwrecked people mentioned by Dr. Walker as being there. He took with him the convicts who had brought the information regarding them, and landed on the spot where they were said to have been last seen, but could find no traces of them.

On the 27th December, 1859, a boat from the *Sesostris* was engaged in taking in water at Watering Cove. When the work was nearly completed, one of the Europeans of the Naval Guard, who was sitting close to a bush, was suddenly attacked from below by eight or nine of the aborigines, who wounded him somewhat severely in two places before he could make any defence. The remainder of the guard immediately fired on the natives, one of whom was wounded,

but got away. A lascar who was filling a water cask received a trifling wound, and the Andamanese ran away.

As this outrage was entirely without provocation, Captain Haughton was anxious to punish the Andamanese for it, if possible, and proceeded to Watering Cove with that intention. He could not, however, find any one. He then reported to the Government of India :—

"4. Having in view the orders of Government issued to my predecessor, I think it desirable to state here the rules I have laid down for the guidance of myself, and of those subordinate to me at this place, on the subject of contact with the aborigines.

"5. Looking to the fact that the aborigines of these islands are probably the most ignorant of mankind, and that they have had hitherto but too good cause to look upon the rest of the human race as their enemies, owing to the universal practice of carrying them off whenever opportunity offered, I have determined to use my best endeavours to avoid all aggression upon them, and, in the event of any opening occurring, to endeavour to conciliate them.

"6. I have, therefore, directed that they should never be molested, except when plainly intending to attack our Settlement or parties, I have discountenanced also all visits to places which they are known to frequent, and I have even withheld from sending out exploring expeditions likely to bring us in contact with them.

"7. On the other hand, I conceive it a duty to the servants of Government, and the convicts exposed to their attacks, to punish sharply and promptly any unprovoked attack by them on the Settlement, and in this view have directed that whenever seen attempting to enter our Settlement by stealth, or openly in a body, if armed, they are to be fired upon. I have offered in such case a reward of Rs. 100 for each captured alive. I may mention that one of the arrows fired at our men was tipped with a piece of steel which must have been obtained during the attack of the 6th April last."

To this declaration of policy the Government of India replied in

letter No. 436 of the 1st March, 1860, from the Secretary of the Home Department:—

"2. I am directed to inform you that the President in Council entirely approves of the determination you express in the 5th paragraph of your letter, to use your best endeavours to avoid all aggression upon the aborigines, and in the event of any opening, to endeavour to conciliate them; and His Honor in Council considers that the line of conduct indicated in paragraph 6 of your letter afford the best security against collision. The President in Council does not despair that, acting in the spirit of the resolution expressed in these two paragraphs of your letter, you may ultimately be able to allay the suspicious hostility of the aborigines, and pave the way towards rendering them harmless, if not useful neighbours.

"As it is possible that some of the convicts who have, while at large, lived with the aborigines, may be made the means of opening a more friendly intercourse with them, His Honor in Council desires me to state that you may consider yourself at liberty to adopt any measures which may seem to you calculated to promote this very desirable end.

With regard to paragraph 7 of your letter, I have to state that it is not the wish of the Government of India to interfere with any regulations which may be really necessary for the safety of the convicts or other inhabitants of the Settlement; but it seems to the President in Council open to doubt whether the orders which you have given to fire on all armed bodies of natives, and the reward offered for their apprehension alive, may not lead to collisions and encourage kidnapping, which would appear to have been one of the original causes of the hostility of the natives."

During the year 1860 some faint signs of a commencement of friendly relations with the Andamanese were observed. Dr. Gamack took an interest in the matter, and considered that the people living in the harbour were becoming more peaceable, though when he went to North Point on the 23rd March, 1860, he met with some new Andamanese who fired on and wounded him.

On the 28th May, Lieutenant Hellard, I.N., who was cruising off the Archipelago Islands, observed a large fire on Rose Island, and saw about fifteen Andamanese there. He did not approach them, and no collision took place.

Captain Haughton recommended that, as the Andamanese seemed to be more peacefully inclined, the station of Haddo, which had been abandoned on account of their attacks, should be re-occupied.

The Government of India read Lieutenant Hellard's and Dr. Gamack's letters on this subject with interest. They directed that the friendly disposition, now for the first time shown, should be extended, but that every precaution should be taken to ensure the safety of those who held intercourse with the Andamanese, and people must on no account place themselves in their power.

With regard to the attack upon Dr. Gamack and his crew by the Andamanese, the President in Council regretted that Dr. Gamack's natural eagerness to follow up the successful commencement he had made in opening friendly relations with the savages should have led him to expose himself and his men so incautiously. At the same time, he directed that further efforts, with caution, should be made to tame the savages.

(Captain Haughton seems to have been singularly fortunate in having two such officers as Lieutenant Hellard and Dr. Gamack to assist him in this work.)

In June, 1860, Captain Haughton called the attention of the Government of India to the case of Dudhnáth Tewári, which appeared to have been overlooked, and asked for his absolute release.

Dudhnáth, since his return from his sojourn with them, had often been pressed to go out and head a party to capture Andamanese, but had refused to trust himself amongst them.

To this the Government of India replied, in letter No. 2204 from the Home Department, dated 5th October, 1860 :—

"In consideration of the behaviour of Life Convict Dudhnáth Tewári, who, after being with the aborigines of the Andaman Islands for upwards of a year, returned to give warning of an attack which

they had planned to make upon the station at Aberdeen, at Atalanta Point, the Governor General in Council is pleased to comply with your recommendation in his favour, and to grant him a free pardon. He should be released and sent up to Calcutta by the first opportunity."

On the 30th June, 1860, it was reported that the Andamanese appeared on the coast at South Point and stole trifles from the convicts cutting bamboos there, but showed them no violence. A boat was sent out to watch them, but they then showed hostility, though on a gun being fired they ran away without bloodshed. An earthen pot and a human skull were found where they had camped, and the latter had evidently been worn as an ornament.

People in those days (and indeed even now) never seem to have realised that the Andamanese objected to strangers coming to their villages and taking away their property, quite as much as we should do, and that such conduct on our part could only provoke ill-feeling and hostility on theirs. The taming of the aborigines on the Little Andaman was, at a later date, much retarded by similar acts on our part, and I noticed a great difference in the behaviour of the savages there when once I had enforced the order that, whatever encampments might be visited, none of the property of the aborigines was ever to be touched, and presents were always to be left in all the huts we entered.

Captain Haughton wrote to the Government of India on the 30th June, 1860, as follows :—

"On the 19th June a party of aborigines landed in a friendly manner on Viper Island, and were met with and well treated by Kooshea Lall, the Head Native Overseer.

(This man seems to have had considerable tact; and had matters been left in his hands, and the Naval Guard sent off the island, probably the Andamanese would have become very friendly.)

"The following day a party of sixteen persons visited Viper Island, and went all over it, staying for some hours :—

"On the 21st a party of four Andamanese were passing, but a

shot having been accidentally fired by one of the European Guard, they were much frightened. They were, however, pacified and dismissed in a friendly manner. The intercourse with these people is a matter of extreme delicacy. I shall endeavour, however, to encourage them without running undue risks."

The above is noteworthy as being the first occasion on which friendly overtures were made by the Andamanese, and our relations with them began from this time to get on a more intimate and better footing.

The President in Council expressed much satisfaction at hearing of these occurrences, and hoped that the officers of the Settlement would do their utmost to promote the friendly disposition which had been shown by the Andamanese, taking at the same time all the precautions already enjoined.

The Secretary of State for India "perused the papers regarding the Andamanese with great interest, and trusted that the officers would do their utmost to promote the friendly disposition which has been shown by the islanders, taking at the same time all due precautions."

On the 18th August, 1860, the *Clyde* visited the Middle Straits and surveyed there. The party came upon some Andamanese who fired on them, but no harm was done. Some iron wreckage was found in a hut, and some of the Andamanese were seen in clothing, from which it would appear that they had been wrecking, though there were no other signs of shipwrecked persons.

On the 11th November, 1860, Captain Haughton reported that the demeanour of the Andamanese had continued to be generally peaceable. The only violence done had been a trifling injury to a convict by the discharge of a wooden headed arrow, because he refused to give up an axe with which he was cutting the jungle.

A gentleman who imprudently wandered into the jungle frequented by the Andamanese had had his tiffin annexed, but was not injured—treatment he would certainly not have met with a year before.

In December, 1860, a party of Andamanese came upon some men

of the *Clyde* who were getting water at Bamboo Flat, and attacked them, slightly wounding one European sailor. The men went off to the ship, but sent back a boat to recover the buckets and clothes which had been abandoned. An Andamanese swam off to the boat with the clothes. The buckets had been broken up for the sake of their iron hoops.

This showed a change in their demeanour from utter hostility to a mixture of timid hostility and would-be friendliness.

On the 17th December, 1860, some convicts who were cutting bamboos in the jungle west of Viper were fired on from an ambuscade, and one man was slightly wounded by an arrow. The savages were not seen, so the guard did not return the fire.

On the 31st December, 1860, the Gangsman on Viper, seeing some Andamanese on the opposite shore, went over to them and gave them some plantains. On the next day he went to meet them again at the same place, on their calling out to him, and gave them some more, but before leaving they fired a shower of arrows, wounding a boatman who died of lock-jaw as a result of the wound. The Gangsman thought the reason for the action was because the European apothecary had come down to look from the opposite shore. (The Andamanese are very easily alarmed, and this may have been the reason, but it all accords only too well with what we know of their treacherous nature, and resembles similar actions I have seen at the Little Andaman.)

On the 3rd and 4th January, 1861, three men and two boys landed on Viper. They wandered about and were allowed to take all the plantains they wanted. Captain Haughton found them, on the 4th, with a full load of plantains, trying to get into a rotten and broken canoe. They baled it out two or three times with a nautilus shell, and at last set off, but had to get into the water and swim behind the canoe, pushing it along. They showed no fear at being closely examined by Captain Haughton and his European Guard, but laughed and talked incessantly, and were quite ready to dance if any one clapped their hands by way of music. They had bows and arrows with them which they did not attempt to use.

From the above it would appear as if the Andamanese had become more really friendly, but I have ascertained from them that such was not the case. Their feelings towards us at this time were, that we were too strong for them to fight and overcome, so in order to obtain the fruit and metal they wanted, they cunningly put on a show of friendliness which they were far from feeling.

Captain Haughton seems to have understood this, as he ordered that, when the Andamanese came armed, they were to be ordered away, and were only to be allowed on the island when unarmed. He says :—

"With all their rudeness, the Andamanese well understand that it is manners to leave their arms on the opposite shore when they come to Viper Island. They are not to be allowed to help themselves or plunder, and only a moderate amount is to be given to them. On the 9th eight Andamanese came over in a canoe again to Viper Island. Four came up and four remained in the canoe. The former were fed as usual and dismissed with a full stock of plantains to each.

"They took what they had received down to the canoe, and returned for more. On being refused, they rushed into the Convict Line and began to plunder. The Sebundy Guard was called, and when they came in sight, the Gangsman caused the aborigines to be seized by the convicts. Their bows and arrows, with which they had threatened people, were taken from them, and after a short time they were released and suffered to depart. The Gangsman reports that, as they left, another canoe full of aborigines came, who, however, returned with their fellows. The Gangsman begged that he might be allowed to keep them off in future, as he apprehended mischief.

"He was again referred to his standing orders, *viz.*, to prevent any from landing till they had deposited their arms on the other shore, to treat them kindly, feed them moderately, and dismiss them. He was directed to prevent them from landing armed, and to seize any who, though unarmed, would persist in plundering."

On the 10th January, 1861, a large number of Andamanese

came down on the western shore facing Viper and eight came over to the island in a canoe. In spite of the presence of the Madras Guard and the exhibition of muskets, they landed and cut a large quantity of plantains without permission, filling their boat so full, that, to take the plantains away, they had to leave three of their number behind. The Gangsman had these three seized, and in the scuffle a convict was wounded with a knife made from hoop iron, which was carried by one of the savages suspended from his neck. A larger number of Andamanese then appeared to be returning in the canoe, so the guard fired over them, and both the people in the boat and those on the opposite shore fled.

One of the prisoners was recognised as having always been a leader of attacking parties, and was the man who unprovokedly fired and wounded a boatman (who subsequently died), on the 31st December, 1859. The sailors christened him "Punch Blair."

The Andamanese did not make their appearance on Viper again for some time, but on the 14th January eight Andamanese came upon a gang of convicts who were clearing a path from Atalanta Point to Navy Bay, and, without much resistance on their part, carried off the tools with which they were working. They also took the tickets bearing the convicts' numbers, the pieces of string, etc., about their persons, and the Brahminical cords of those who wore them. Previous to this occurrence, the Andamanese had not been known to cross the line on which the convicts were working for 15 months. A guard of twenty Sebundies was sent with the party the next day, when this party was again attacked. The Sebundies fired a few harmless shots, and the Gangsman seized and bound three of the Andamanese, taking their arms from them. One Sebundy was wounded with an arrow, and another had a bad bite in the arm. Two Andamanese had their ribs broken, and two had slight bayonet wounds, all of which were inflicted by the Sebundies after their capture, a fact of which Captain Haughton took serious notice.

One of the prisoners had a convict's ticket on the neck. This with an axe, and a Brahminical cord, were from the plunder of the previous day.

On the 16th January "Punch," who had been closely guarded by the Naval Brigade, managed to escape. Having a boyish appearance, though no boy, he was only secured with a cord which he bit through during the night, and bolted. Though the entire Brigade was turned out to search for him, he could not be found owing to the darkness.

On the 18th January a Punjabi male convict with his convict wife escaped from Viper. On the 24th a canoe was seen with a single Andamanese in it who had a white garment on. He was fired on. The Andamanese (supposed to be "Punch") abandoned the canoe, and on examination it was found to contain a tin of ghee, most probably the property of the convicts who escaped on the 18th.

On the 18th, also, a large canoe with eight or ten Andamanese in it, came round North Point, and on looking through a glass Captain Haughton saw that there was also a large party of Andamanese coming along the shore armed, and shooting fish, who kept parallel with the canoe. One of the shore party had a white cloth round his head and waist, and two were painted with red from head to foot. All of them were naked. Mr. Brown of the Naval Brigade was sent in a boat to observe the movements of the savages, and as he approached the party, some, including the white clothed Andamanese, made off into the jungle. A number, however, swam off boldly to the boat, and one of them was wearing a red cloth. Mr. Brown distrusted them from what he noticed of their actions, and fired a shot over them, whereupon they fled. The red cloth, which was abandoned in their flight, was identified as the upper clothing of the female convict who ran away on the 18th.

On the 29th the party of five Andamanese prisoners (the two who were captured with "Punch" on the 10th, and the three who were seized on the 15th) struggled violently but ineffectually to escape while out for an airing.

Captain Haughton writes:—

"The course to adopt with regard to the Andamanese has been a source of much anxiety to me. If too much encouraged, our people are liable to be plundered, killed, or wounded; on the other hand,

without some encouragement it would seem as if we must forever remain strangers, and at war with them.

"Considering the circumstances under which the five captives have come into our hands, *viz.*, that three were taken in an aggressive attack, and that the other two, though not actually at the time fighting against us, had formed part of an armed plundering party, and that one of them had, without the least provocation, inflicted a wound on one of our party, from the effects of which he died, I have thought myself warranted in detaining them with a view to their being made, if possible, the means of intercourse with their countrymen hereafter. But I find it impossible to retain them here without an amount of restraint which would defeat entirely our object in keeping them. One of them is old and grey-headed, another of them is deformed and stupid. These two I propose to keep for a time and then release. The other three I propose shipping to the Commissioner of Pegu, to be retained for a few months, taught a little English, and sent back. I consider the climate and surroundings of the Tenasserim Coast the most favourable for them, and with reference to this fact, and the fate of the man captured by the Andaman Committee, abstain from sending them to Calcutta.

"They will be embarked on the *Tubalcain* bound for Rangoon, and I have requested the officer commanding the Naval Brigade to send with them one of the men who has been specially in charge of them, and he will remain with them until his services are dispensed with by Colonel Phayre.

"Apart from a natural effort to regain their liberty, they have shown themselves quiet and tractable. They appear to be fond of their keepers, care for children and young animals, and are kind to each other."

Captain Haughton's conduct in this matter met with the entire approval of the Government of India, who issued instructions regarding the Andamanese to Colonel Phayre, and allowed the necessary expenses for their keep.

Captain Haughton's arrangement was most judicious, and, as after experience with the Öngés of the Little Andaman has taught, he took the only step which is of any use in taming the Andamanese; *i.e.*, he sent them away from their own country for a considerable period to a land where they saw something of civilisation, realised somewhat the extent and greatness of our power and their own insignificance and weakness, and, though well and kindly treated, were kept under a certain amount of discipline.

I have discussed the whole affair with Andamanese who remember the circumstances, and they state that when those who had been taken to Moulmein returned from there and related all that they had seen, the others were so impressed by what they heard, that they at last realised that they could not resist us, that we did not wish to injure them, but were willing to be friendly and kind, and they therefore began from that time to cultivate real friendly relations. They admit that all that had gone before was mere cunning and treachery adopted with a view to throw us off our guard and thus enable them to plunder with impunity.

They state that the real names of the Andamanese captured were:—

Tuesday Blair. Íra Jóbo.
Crusoe. Bía Kurcho.
Jumbo (who died in Moulmein). Bira Buj.
Friday. Turāī Dé.

In February, 1861, with a view to meet any attack on the Settlement by the aborigines, a path, fifty feet wide, was cleared from Atalanta Settlement to Navy Bay, the heaviest timber being left standing.

[This was utterly useless for the purpose, as the Andamanese would cross it, certainly at night, and generally in the day time, without being observed (as it was not, and could not be, guarded throughout its entire length), and would hide in the jungle on the Settlement side.]

The following correspondence is interesting as showing that, even in 1861, some few observers had an idea regarding the origin and true

ethnological position of the Andamanese, though this was not generally accepted, even in the scientific world, till comparatively lately.

Lieutenant-Colonel A. Fytche, Commissioner of the Tenasserim and Martaban Provinces, in writing to the Government of India in the Foreign Department on the 28th May, 1861, forwards a letter from Major R. S. Tickell, Deputy Commissioner of Moulmein, in whose charge the three Andamanese prisoners had been given. Major Tickell states that he has received on the 9th May the three Andamanese, at the request of the Commissioner of Pegu, with a view to their education and civilisation; and had engaged a Burman named Moung Shway Hman, who spoke English, and with whom the Andamanese were acquainted in their own country, to take charge of them, feed, clothe, lodge, and teach them English, at a cost of Rs. 30 for each man *per mensem*. He asks for a grant of Rs. 100 *per mensem* from the Government on behalf of these Andamanese, and remarks that they are in a desponding state of mind owing to their captivity, and that one of them is in a sickly condition.

Colonel Fytche asked that this sum might be sanctioned, pointing out that it would not be required for long, and in reply the Government of India sanctioned the grant accordingly.

Colonel Fytche in his letter goes on to say :—

"Mr. Blythe of the Asiatic Society, who is now staying with me at Moulmein, and has, with myself, made a special study of these men, considers that their reputed similarity to the true African Negro has been greatly exaggerated. He remarks that their forehead is well formed and not retreating, neither are their lips coarse and projecting, and their nostrils are by no means broad; their ear is small and well formed. The hair is unlike the so-called woolly hair of the Negro, and grows conspicuously in separate detached tufts. They have scarcely any trace of whiskers, beard, or moustache, and have been long enough in captivity for the growth of such were it existent. The hair of the head, also, shows no disposition to elongate, but continues very short and crisp. The complexion is not a deep black, but rather of a sooty hue; the hands and feet are small, the latter not showing the projecting heel of the true Negro.

"3. The Andamanese appear to be one of many remnants still extant of a race that was formerly very extensively diffused over South-Eastern Asia and its Archipelago, which for the most part has been extirpated by races more advanced towards civilisation, being now driven to remote islands or mountain fastnesses, such as the Andamans, the interior of the Great Nicobar (where they are reported to be constantly at warfare with the people of the coast), and within the present century for certain (*vide* Crawfurd), and probably even now, there are one or more tribes of them in the mountains of the interior of the Malayan Peninsula, Sumatra, Borneo, and especially the Phillipine Islands, where the island of Negros derives this its Spanish name, from its being inhabited by a blackish race, variously known as the Negrito, Negrillo, or true Papuan. The race has its head-quarters in the great Island of Papua, or New Guinea, where some tribes are found attaining to six feet in stature, whilst others are so diminutive as the Andamanese.

"4. Upon the island continent of Australia, the true Papuan type has never been detected, but it formerly constituted the people of Tasmania, so numerous at the time of Captain Cook's visit, but which race is now all but extinct, three or four individuals only surviving. The history of the capture of the last remnant of the race inhabiting Tasmania is well known, and their removal to an island in Bass's Straits, where the Government provided them with blankets and a certain amount of food, but it is remarkable that they died off fast and chiefly from pulmonary consumption. The same remark has been made also of the New Zealander, belonging to a very different race of human kind, since the introduction of blankets and other European clothing amongst them, they having also been subject to pulmonary diseases which seem to have been unknown before.

"5. Now it is remarkable that, of the three Andamanese at present in Moulmein, one is already suffering from a pulmonary affection, and it is desirable that he at least should be returned to Port Blair by the first opportunity. The others also appear to be pining from this cause, or from home sickness, and they are not likely to learn much more than they have already learnt, should their stay be longer